For Immediate Release

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Smoke Alarm Alerts Palmer Area Resident of Dryer Fire

(Palmer, Alaska) Smoke alarms alerted a Palmer woman and her children early this morning of a fire in her basement laundry room at 2280 Killarney Drive. The family was upstairs getting ready for school when the alarms sounded. The woman went to the basement and noticed smoke coming from the laundry room at which time she called 911 and got her children out of the house. Fire units from Palmer Fire and Rescue and the Central Mat-Su Fire Department responded and found the clothes dryer on fire with heavy smoke spreading throughout the rest of the three story home.

Firefighters quickly extinguished the fire, removed the dryer and evacuated the smoke from the structure. The fire did minimal damage to the laundry room because of the quick response by the homeowner and fire units.

Had the smoke alarms not sounded, the fire could have spread throughout the structure before the occupants would have noticed it. The smoke alarms activated before the fire extended outside of the dryer, giving the occupants time to evacuate and call 911.

The Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety reminds Alaskans that working smoke alarms can give them the extra time needed to escape a devastating home fire and alert fire officials for a quicker response.

Alaska State Fire Marshal David Tyler adds, "Fire safe behavior can keep a fire from starting. Working smoke alarms, planning and practicing your fire escape plan and adding residential fire suppression sprinklers can ensure your family's safety in case of a fire."

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